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2014 Meetings:

January 8

February 12

March 12

April 9

May 14

June 11

July 9

August 13

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

CBC is looking for volunteers for 2014 Make-A-Difference

Day



This year's project is "Mulch-a-Palooza."

Please come out and help spreading mulch, pulling weeds and painting benches in the City Municipal Park.

Individuals and families are welcome (over the age of 15, please). Please dress for garden work and bring your work gloves.

The event will be held on **Saturday, May 3, 2014** from 10:00am-1:00pm and will take place in the Rochester Municipal Park.

Volunteers will check in at the Kiwanis Pavilion at 10 a.m. (over the bridge, past the pond, facing City Hall).

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Lynn at lmo102967@wowway.com with your name along with the number of volunteers. For questions please contact Lynn at [\(248\) 652-2765](tel:2486522765).

Rochester Community Garden



Anyone who has participated in the garden for the last few years can attest to the challenge of carrying flats of plants or wheelbarrow loads of compost up the hill from the parking lot to the garden entrance. While we enjoy promoting the physical activity you can get from

our hill, sometimes it created an obstacle for some of our older gardeners and even made access impossible for gardeners with certain physical disabilities. The City felt very strongly that our garden should be open to all City residents...so the garden access road has now been paved and extended to provide a place to drop off materials and supplies at the garden gate. There will be handicap parking available for those who cannot make the "climb" up our hill.

To further provide for full inclusion in the community gardening experience, there will be two fully wheelchair accessible raised beds (for a total of four garden plots) built in the garden this spring. These plots will be specially designed to allow wheelchair users to reach in to their garden plot to tend their plants. Because the beds are much higher off the ground than traditional plots we expect that they will also be valuable for accommodating gardeners who have back pain or have trouble bending.

The community garden experience has something to offer everyone in our community...of all ages and of all abilities. We are very proud of these recent improvements to our garden and look forward to meeting many new friends in the garden this summer.

Rochester Green City Committee and the Non-motorized Transportation Committee



Becoming a more sustainable community is an important, long-term goal for any community. Improving sustainability makes economic sense and often improves the standard of living of residents. The Green City Committee and the Non-motorized Transportation Task Force are two groups currently working to improve the sustainability of Rochester. The Green City Committee provided a series of educational programs during the Rochester Farmers Market in the fall of 2014. One of these programs encouraged individuals and families to consider biking to the Farmers Market. This program generated so much interest and enthusiasm that the Committee formed a spin-off committee to specifically target the sustainability initiative. The Non-motorized Transportation Committee was formed as part of Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve and immediately went to work.

They held an informational open house in cooperation with regional planners and reached out to the cycling community. Most recently, the Committee worked with the City Council to pass a complete streets resolution. The resolution calls on City officials to consider the needs of all road users as they embark on new infrastructure projects or improvements to existing infrastructure. With proximity to three regional rail-to-trail networks, Rochester is uniquely positioned to encourage activities like cycling and walking for economic, environmental and health benefits. The Non-motorized Transportation Committee looks forward to being a strong partner with the City and regional community on this important project.

Learn More about the City Beautiful Commission and their Projects

Keep up to date on all of the Rochester City Beautiful Commission's projects on our Facebook Page.

Additionally, the City Beautiful Commission produces this newsletter quarterly to highlight the projects the Commission is involved in. Interested individuals can sign up to receive the newsletter via email by emailing cbc@rochestermi.org and including "newsletter" in the subject line.